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SECURITY INFORMATION

From: Commander in Chief U.S. Pacific Fleet
To: Chief of Naval Operations (OPI)

Subj: Chinese Nationalist Capabilities to Blockade Communist China; estimate of

Ref: (a) CNO Top Secret ltr Op322Y3G/eee ser000413P32 of 9 Apr 1953

Encl: (1) Subject Study
(2) Comment upon enclosure (1)

1. Enclosure (1) has been reviewed as requested by reference (a). Because of the nature of subject study, its review considered it not only as an intelligence estimate but also as a planning feasibility study. Consequently the comments on enclosure (1) which are listed in enclosure (2) reflect both viewpoints.

2. In general, this estimate is considered of particular interest. It must be noted that many events which have transpired subsequent to the promulgation of reference (a) tend to indicate that the capabilities listed for Chinese Nationalist forces are overoptimistic.

3. The recent reluctance of the Chinese Nationalist Navy to engage the enemy in defense and support of Chinese coastal islands is considered quite indicative of a reluctance to hazard their ships in any undertaking short of the strict defense of Formosa. While this comment is made with the benefit of additional hindsight, it is considered that such thoughts must be included prior to any further use of enclosure (1).

S. B. FRANKEL
Assistant Chief of Staff
for Intelligence

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SIGNER

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